

REMARKS:

Applicants are amending claims 1, 4, 7, 9 and 10, and are adding new claim 11. Thus, claims 1-11 currently are pending and are subject to examination in the above-captioned patent application. Applicants also are amending Figures 1-4 to include a "Prior Art" legend, and are amending the Title of the Invention. No new matter is added by the foregoing amendments, and these amendments are fully supported by the specification. See, e.g., Appl'n, Page 21, Line 35. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider the above-captioned patent application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following response.

In the Office Action mailed June 27, 2005, the Examiner objects to the Title of the Invention as allegedly being non-descriptive of the claimed invention. Applicants have amended the Title of the Invention, and respectfully submit that at least the new Title of the Invention is descriptive of the claimed invention. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the objections to the Title of the Invention.

The Examiner objects to Figures 1-4 as allegedly failing to include a "Prior Art" legend. In accordance with the Examiner's suggestions, Applicants have amended Figures 1-4 to include a "Prior Art" legend. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the objections to the drawings.

The Examiner rejects claims 1-10 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,356,064 to Tonda. To the extent that this rejection remains applicable in view of the foregoing amendments, Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection, as follows.

Tonda describes a semiconductor integrated circuit that comprises a start-up circuit 20, a signal-level converter 30, and a band-gap circuit 10. The semiconductor circuit described in Tonda is the **same** as a **known** semiconductor integrated circuit that is described in the Background of the Invention section and **corresponds to prior art Figure 2 of the above-captioned patent application**. For example, the start-up circuit 20 of Tonda includes a capacitor 24 (corresponding to capacitor C2 of Figure 2), a resistor 23 (corresponding to resistor R3 of Figure 2), a transistor 21a (corresponding to transistor PM7 of Figure 2), and a transistor 22 (corresponding to transistor PM8 of Figure 2). As set forth in the above-captioned patent application, because the start-up circuit 20 of Tonda includes a capacitor 24, the circuit requires a longer starting-up time.

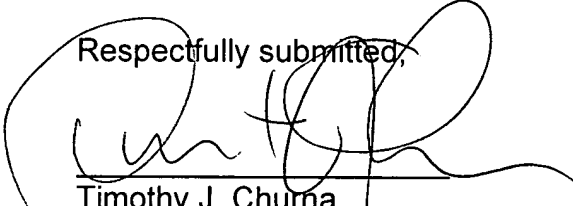
The semiconductor integrated circuits of the present invention are substantially different than the known semiconductor integrated circuit described in Tonda. For example, in Applicants' independent claim 1, "a current that flows through said starting-up circuit when said current generator circuit operates at the stable working point is **determined by a resistance and MOS transistors connected in series provided in said starting-up circuit.**" Tonda does not disclose or suggest this feature of independent claim 1. Similarly, Applicants' independent claims 4, 7, and 9 include structural elements which Tonda does not disclose or suggest. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the anticipation rejection of independent claims 1, 4, 7, and 9 at least for these reasons.

Claims 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, and 10 depend from one of allowable independent claims 1, 4, 7, and 9. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the anticipation rejection of claims 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, and 10 at least for this reason.

CONCLUSION:

Applicants respectfully submit that the above-captioned patent application is in condition for allowance, and such action is earnestly requested. If the Examiner believes that an in-person or telephonic interview with Applicants' representatives would expedite the prosecution of the above-captioned patent application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney of records. Applicants are enclosing a check in the amount of one hundred and twenty dollars (\$120.00) covering the requisite large entity fee for a Petition for a One-Month Extension of Time to Respond. Nevertheless, in the event of any variance between the fees determined by Applicants and those determined by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, please charge or credit such variance to the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 01-2300.

Respectfully submitted,



Timothy J. Churna
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 48,340

Customer No. 004372
ARENT FOX, PLLC
1050 Connecticut Ave., N.W., Suite 400
Washington, D.C. 20036-5339
Telephone No. (202) 857-6050
Facsimile No. (202) 638-4810

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Enclosures: Replacement Sheets (Figures 1-4)
Annotated Sheets (Figures 1-4)
Petition for One-Month Extension of Time

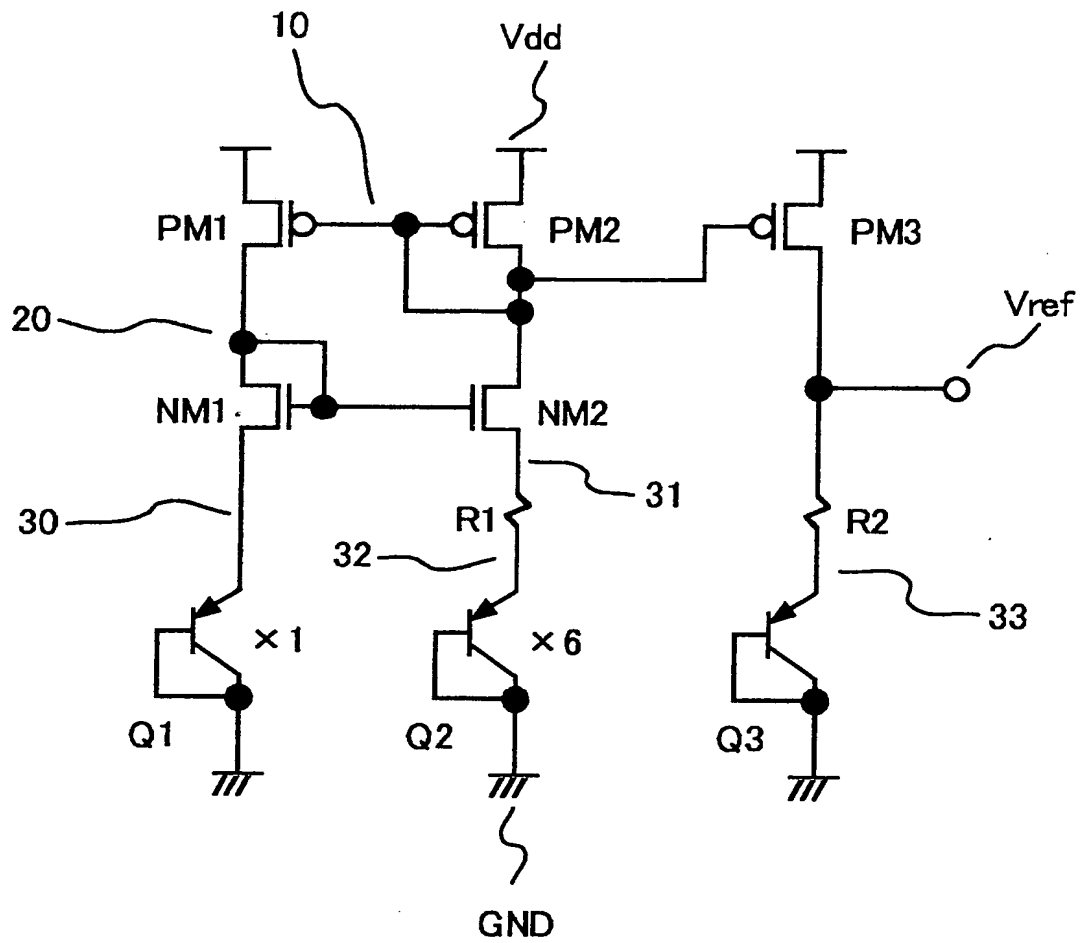
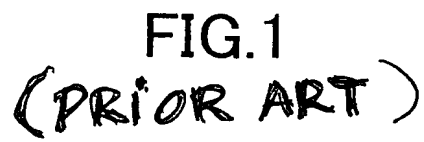


FIG.2
(PRIOR ART)

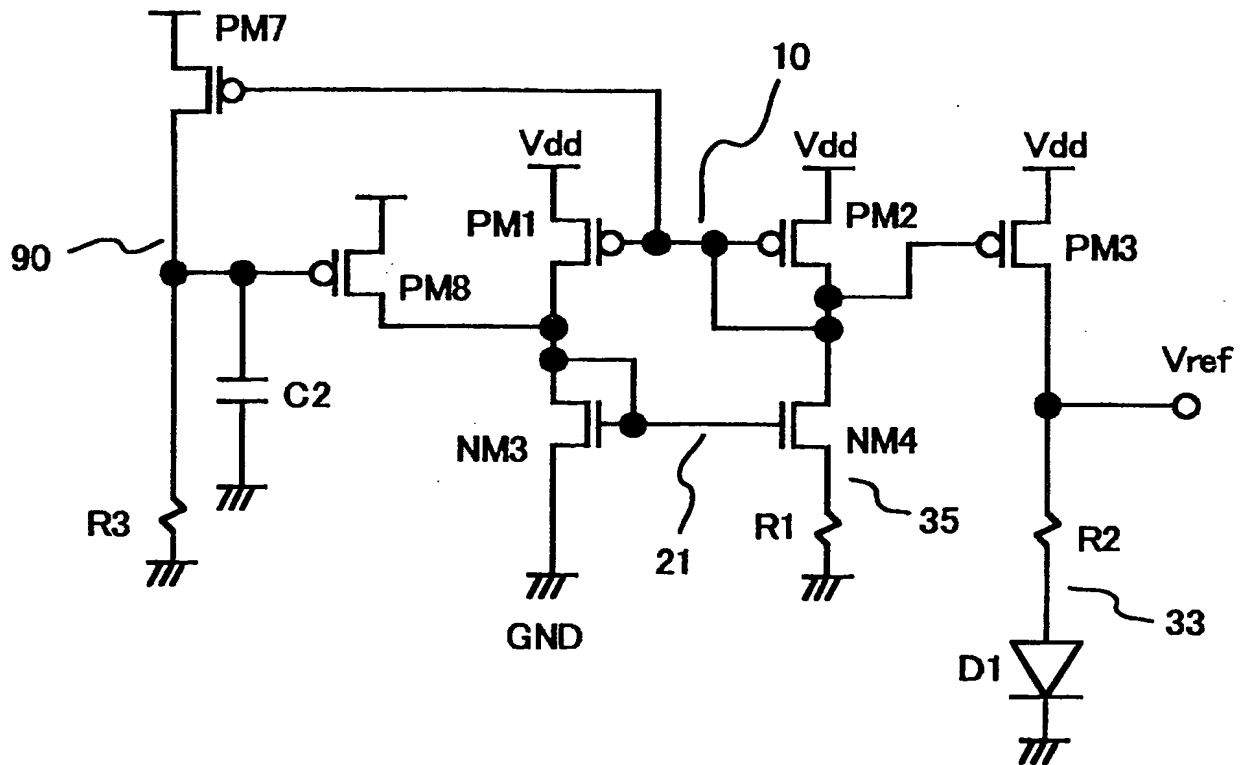


FIG.3
(PRIOR ART)

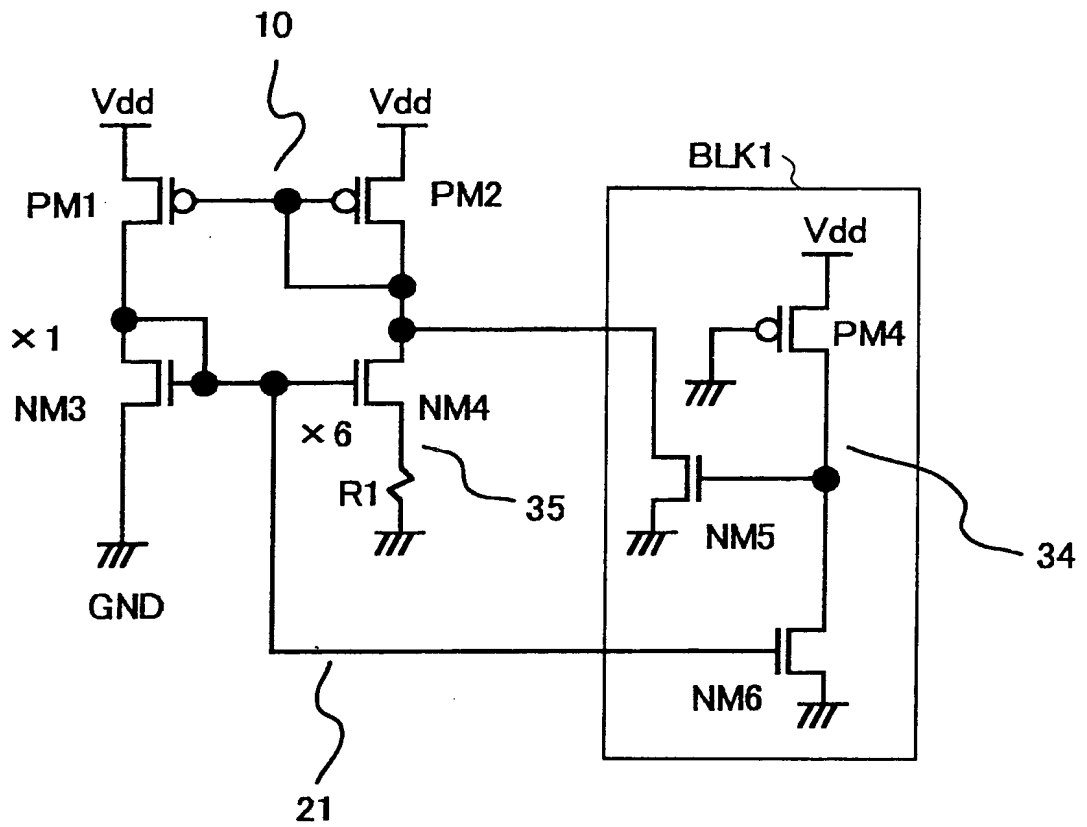


FIG.4
(PRIOR ART)

